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NEWS RELEASE

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State Auditor Tim Berry Announces Enhancements To State Transparency Portal

Updated web site includes expenditure search tool, program performance reports, and subscription service for e-mail alerts

INDIANAPOLIS—Indiana Auditor of State Tim Berry announced significant upgrades to the state government Transparency Portal this morning at a news conference in his office.

He also announced the Transparency Portal had earned an A- rating and a “Sunny Award” from Sunshine Review, a non-profit organization dedicated to state and local government transparency.

The Indiana State Government Transparency Portal can be found at www.in.gov/itp. The Sunshine Awards page for the Indiana state web site can be found at http://sunshinereview.org/index.php/Evaluation_of_Indiana_state_website

“The people’s business should not be conducted in the shadows,” declared Auditor Berry. “The State Government Transparency Portal is a great way for the public to stay informed about how we spend their money—both at the state and local levels.”

Building on the initial rollout of the Transparency Portal in August 2010, Auditor Berry today detailed the new features that increase the public’s access to important government information.

This update includes more extensive local government finance reports, an expenditure search tool, program performance results, and a chance to sign up for e-mail alerts when the Portal’s features are updated.

“In today’s world, technology is creating an expectation of access to information,” continued Auditor Berry. “We launched the Transparency Portal because I believe the public has the right to as much information about their government as possible. These latest updates in no way represent the end of our effort, there is much more we can do, and we are committed to doing it.”

Transparency features announced last year include a database of employee salaries, a suggestion box, and details of state contracts.

Elected in 2006 as Indiana’s 54th State Auditor, Tim Berry serves as the state’s chief financial officer. Prior to becoming state auditor, Berry served two terms as the Indiana State Treasurer. During his tenure in state government, Auditor Berry has consistently operated under budget and has returned hundreds of thousands of dollars back to Hoosier taxpayers.